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AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

- 1. (Currently amended) An electret condenser <u>MEMS</u> device, comprising:
- a first film including a first electrode;
- a second film including a second electrode and an electret film;
- a first insulting film formed between the first film and the second film; and
- an air gap formed by removing part of the first insulating film,

wherein respective parts of the first film and the second film exposed in the air gap are formed of a second insulating film

a second insulating film is formed on part of the first film facing the air gap, and a third insulating film is formed on part of the second film facing the air gap.

- (Currently amended) The electret condenser MEMS device of Claim 1, wherein at least one of the first film and the second film electrode and the second electrode has a through hole communicating with the air gap.
- 3. (Currently amended) The electret condenser MEMS device of Claim 1, wherein the second insulating film is an insulating film and the third insulating film are insulating films having tensile stress.
- 4. (Currently amended) The electret condenser MEMS device of Claim 1, wherein the second insulating film is a silicon nitride film and the third insulating film are silicon nitride films.

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- 5. (Currently amended) The electret condenser MEMS device of Claim 1, wherein the first insulating film is a lamination layer of a plurality of insulating films made of the same material.
 - 6. (Currently amended) The electret condenser MEMS device of Claim 1, wherein the first film is a fixed film, and the second film is a vibrating film.
 - 7. (New) The MEMS device of Claim 1,

wherein the second insulating film is formed so that the first electrode does not come into contact with the air gap, and

the third insulating film is formed so that the second electrode does not come into contact with the air gap.

- 8. (New) The MEMS device of Claim 1, wherein the thickness of the air gap is determined substantially by the thickness of the first insulating film.
 - 9. (New) The MEMS device of Claim 1, wherein one of the first film and the second film further includes an electret film.
 - 10. (New) The MEMS device of Claim 1, wherein one of the first film and the second film vibrates upon receipt of sound pressure.